

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OR :

REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF

TRACEY M. BLACKTON-KOPP, R.N.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

License No. 26NO11913500

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (the "Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and upon which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Tracey M. Blackton-Kopp ("Respondent") is a registered professional nurse in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.
- 2. Upon receipt of a flagging notice indicating that Respondent was arrested on July 10, 2012 by the Moorestown Township Police Department for Simple Assault, N.J.S.A. 2C:12-1(a)(3), the Board sent a letter of inquiry, requesting certain information and submission of documents, to Respondent's address of record in Moorestown, New Jersey, via regular and certified mail on or about July 31, 2012. The regular mailing was not

returned; the certified mail receipt was signed and returned to the Board.

3. Respondent did not respond to the Board's request for information.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's failure to respond to the Board's request for information constitutes a failure to cooperate with a Board investigation, in contravention of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.2, -1.3, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e), subjecting Respondent to disciplinary action pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h).

Respondent's failure to provide the Board with a valid address constitutes a violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.7.

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline suspending Respondent's license and imposing a two hundred dollar (\$200) civil penalty was entered on October 26, 2012. Copies were served upon Respondent via regular and certified mail. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the thirtieth day following entry unless Respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated findings of fact and conclusions of law by setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written

evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Respondent responded to the Provisional Order of Discipline by providing a partial response to the original letter of inquiry. Respondent subsequently provided an additional response which included documentation indicating that the criminal matter was dismissed.

The Board reviewed Respondent's submissions and determined that further proceedings were not necessary. The Board was not persuaded that the submitted materials merited further consideration, as Respondent did not dispute the findings of fact or conclusions of law. Inasmuch as Respondent provided the information originally requested, the Board determined that suspension was no longer warranted. However, the Board determined that Respondent's failure to respond to the original inquiry, thereby necessitating the filing of the Provisional Order of Discipline, and review of Respondent's subsequent reply months later, warrants imposition of a two hundred dollar (\$200) civil penalty.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this  $10^{-h}$  day of 3une, 2013, ORDERED that:

1. A civil penalty in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200) is hereby imposed upon Respondent for failure to

cooperate with a Board investigation. The Board acknowledges receipt of a two hundred dollar (\$200) money order from Respondent and shall process same as payment of the within civil penalty.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:

Patricia Murphy, PhD, APRN

President